

## **SUMMARY OF SITKA PUBLIC MEETING**

**March 1, 2002**

### **Meeting Time and Location**

A public hearing was conducted March 1, 2002, 12:00-1:30 p.m. at Centennial Hall, Sitka.

### **Publicity and promotion**

- Co-sponsored meeting with Sitka Local Emergency Planning Committee, Fish and Game Advisory Council, and Sitka Conservation Society.
- Public notice published in local paper, Sitka *Daily Sentinel* on February 27.
- News article on the hearing and GRS process appeared in February 28, Sitka *Daily Sentinel*.
- Public Service announcement on the community access TV station appeared February 17-28.
- E-mail notice through master contact list and web posting.

### **Feedback**

Fifteen individuals attended the meeting. After listening to an overview of the GRS process, and receiving a handout that described the process and listed the candidate sites, the attendees provided the following comments:

1. Generally approved of the priority selections for the Sitka zone.
2. Suggested the following sites for further consideration:
  - Middle Island (south side) – herring spawning ground.
  - Halibut Point shoreline – fishing and herring spawning.
  - Silver Bay – spawning and whale use.
  - Hatchery operated by Sheldon Jackson College near Crescent Harbor (consider covering under Indian River plan)
  - Redoubt Bay and Lake – sockeye spawning.
  - Upper Hoonah Sound – resource rich area.
  - Fish Bay – juvenile sable fish.
  - Saint John the Baptist Bay – juvenile sable fish.

- Vitskari Rock and Kulichkof Rock (Sitka Sound) for fishing and whale congregating areas and are at risk of spill impact.
  - Kadashan Bay – productive estuary; waterfowl and crab.
  - Upper Tennekee Inlet – hosts a variety of resources including crab flats and waterfowl.
  - Deep Bay and Baby Bera, Big Bear Marine Park – anchorage for small cruise ships, viewing area, vulnerable from accident in Serguis Narrows.
  - Kalinin Bay (off Salisbury Sound) – tourist use, bears, fishing salmon spawning. Bad weather anchorage.
  - Immediately north of Japonski Island – herring spawning.
  - Whiting Harbor (west Japonski Island) – vicinity’s only mariculture area.
  - Kelp Bay – resource rich.
  - Basket Bay – consider whether protection needed for cave entrance.
3. The Sitka Conversation Society presented several chartlets and map graphics showing resource concentrations. These graphics will be posted on the Sitka Conservation Society website. A link will be provided when they become available.
4. Consider staging equipment in or near Rodman Bay. This is a high traffic area that is difficult to mobilize equipment to.